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Sports, Page 1B



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VOLUME 21, NUMBER 63

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 1997

FIFTY CENTS

Old paint brings new stains

This is the second in a series of five stories that will explore the latest innovations in home and office recycling. The reports also will detail how well recycling has worked and the prospects for success in the future. This "Do it for your mother" series was developed with a large amount of research by the St. Louis Jefferson Solid Waste Management District.

By Jim Rygelski
Staff writer

Nancy Niemeyer admits recycling paint was once the furthest thing from her mind.

So was properly disposing of the leftover paint from a job around the house.

She threw it in the trash can, Niemeyer said of her easy but environmentally unsafe old habits.

Now Niemeyer, of the Fenton area, has a quite different opinion about what to do with old paint. Her company, Paint Solutions, 1920 S. Vandeventer, recycles paint, "about 10,000 gallons of flat latex a year to individuals and companies. It is the only such paint recycling operation in the Midwest."

"My one comment is, you can buy it and it will cost you. People think that because it's recycled it's not that good, but it works well for everything," she said.

"And the more they use it, people will realize it's just as good as what you can get in a hardware store."

She also thinks it's priced just as well, starting as low as \$7 a gallon and going as high as \$13 for some mixes.

Niemeyer worked for an industrial paint processor for more than 10 years before opening her business. She noticed when that company produced a batch that failed to meet specifications, it worked a portion of it into a new batch. That made her wonder why paint recycling was not done more often.

She said St. Louis County officials approached her about opening a paint recycling operation, which she did in the fall of 1993. Her company now has a branch near Scott City and is hoping to open another one on the east coast.

Paint Solutions obtains its old paint from collections it manages around the area, often on Saturdays. In the fall, it will offer collection services for Ferguson and the adjacent Valley Fire Protection District. As a part of the deal, Paint Solutions will give the residents the chance to later claim recycled paint for free.

(See PAINT, Page 3A)



(Staff photo by PAMELA WOLLENBERG)

Virginia Flier, executive assistant at Paint Solutions, shows cans of both discarded paint and the recycled product.

Hauler provides education

By Jim Rygelski

Staff writer

A 1-year-old program in Pagedale is resulting in some modest, yet important gains, in improving people's attitudes toward recycling, say those involved in it.

"They've done a pretty good job. We've seen a pretty substantial increase in recycling," said Steve Triplett, operations manager of E&H Hauling Co., based in Bridgeton.

E&H has picked up trash in Pagedale since 1993. The city uses its tax income to pay residents' bills. Last August, E&H began a new program showing residents how much it would cost them individually to throw their rubbish in the area's landfills.

The program's goal is to get people to think of ways to reduce the weight of their trash, and the cost of its disposal, by removing refuse.

A third of the \$300,000 program is financed by the St. Louis County Health Department. What E&H has done over the past year is to

weigh the amount of trash each resident puts out for the once-weekly pickup. The trash truck is equipped with a computerized platform-type scale and uses a radio frequency device to record the name and address of the resident.

The trash can is lifted by the truck's mechanical arm, dumped onto the scale and held long enough for electronically weighed. The trash is then dumped into the main receptacle to be compacted.

Now, E&H is sending out a dummy bill based on last year's actual pickup at a single address. (Triplett said that name was not mentioned, as the bill had been covered so as not to embarrass that person.) The bill shows the weight of the trash that person discarded and what the resident would have had to pay to have it disposed of in a landfill.

He called in and asked, "What does my trash weigh today?" Triplett said.

He said sending the dummy bill was meant to encourage people, not to offend or scare

(See TRASH, Page 3A)



**"First take
newspapers and
glass out of your
trash; those are
the things that
have the most
direct impact on
your bill."**

Steve Triplett
operations manager

In the Journal

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5 FULLER'S FORECAST

John Fuller, Meteorologist, KSDK NewsChannel 5



Fire hits GCHS

By Scott Kelly
Staff writer

A small fire in the basement of Granite City High School Thursday morning threatened to destroy the school's history.

The school's graduation photos, normally displayed on a wall in the high school at 11 Madison, were temporarily stored in a basement room.

Construction workers remodeling the high school were using a welder to remove old radiators when sparks went to a pipe that was not insulated. It was stored in the basement at 9:17 a.m. The fire damaged items including the graduation photos, picture frames and a safe.

Tom Holloway, administrative assistant for secondary

(See FIRE, Page 4A)



(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

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(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

Ready for action

St. John Lutheran Youth Group held a car wash Saturday at the church parking lot, 2001 St. Clair Ave., to raise money for youth projects. Above, the youth group readies to clean cars at their previous car wash on July 12. The youth group holds the car washes every second Saturday of the month. The group is open for any 11- to 17-year-old youth. Call Jackie Harris at 451-7788 for more information.

Keeping tabs

Program will require businesses to report on new employees

By Mark Hodapp
Staff writer

Illinois businesses will be helping child support officials track down absent parents under a statewide program that goes into effect Oct. 1.

The Employer New Hire Reporting Program will require businesses to report new employees within 20 days of their first day.

This information will be fed into a national registry to provide more information for locating non-custodial parents.

Tom Revane, manager of the Illinois Department of Employment Security's benefit system office in Chicago, said he has talked to several employers about the program.

"For the most part, they have reacted positively because they understand the problem," he said.

IDES will share the information it receives with the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting office, which will track down non-custodial parents.

Dean Schott, a spokesman for Illinois' Public Aid office in Chicago, said a study recently completed by Lt. Governor Bob

Kustra predicted the new hiring program will result in an additional \$30 million being collected annually from absent parents.

"Now the state collects about \$300 million," he said.

Schott said the program is also expected to save an additional \$25 million for fraudulent welfare, unemployment and insurance benefits.

He said Kustra estimated that 50 percent of the children who would be eligible to child support are "receiving little or no benefits presently," he said.

The IDES has developed several reporting methods to ease the paperwork for employers, including:

• Producing a form that can be mailed or faxed to the agency.

• Using copies of the employee's W-4 form.

Developing a new toll free number to answer questions. That number is 1-800-327-4473. Information and assistance will be made available from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Revane said all employees, including part-timers, will be covered by the program which was created under the Federal Welfare Act passed by Congress

"For the most part, they have reacted positively because they understand the purpose behind it."

Tom Revane
Manager of IDES

last year.

But there is still some question whether substitute teachers will be covered because they are not considered employees by most school districts, he said.

Businesses with employees in more than one state will be required to designate a single state to report all new hires. The employer, however, must notify the federal government which state it has selected for reporting.

Information on the program will be distributed to employers in August this month. "The reporting forms should be ready around Aug. 20," Revane said.

Drug raid nabs tiger cub

Special to the Journal

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) officers recently arrested nine suspects in Columbia and Granite City after finding in a drug raid illegal narcotics, big quantities of cash, weapons, and a tiger cub, said an official from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Fish and Wildlife Service officials found the 60-pound Bengal cub, named "Tigger," at a Mount Vernon house inhabited by an acquaintance of one of the suspects. The DEA called them into the investigation after learning of the cub.

Fish and Wildlife Service special agent Timothy Santel of the St. Louis office said he and his colleagues of the DEA Task Force had learned the cub was obtained in Missouri as part of a \$6,000 drug deal.

The July 29 raid netted 120 pounds of narcotics, \$100,000 in cash, dozens of weapons, vehicles, including a race car and a house, Santel said.

Because most zoos have the quota of Bengal tigers, Tigger was sent to a wildlife sanctuary in the West as soon as travel arrangements are scheduled, Santel said.

Bengal tigers, like other species of tigers, are considered endangered, and federal

laws, including the Endangered Species Act and the Lacey Act, restrict trade, possession and interstate commerce of the animals," Santel said.

"It is not unusual that a tiger is part of a narcotics deal.

Unlawful trade in

wildlife often is

related to the illegal

drug trade in the

United States."

Timothy Santel
Fish and Wildlife Service special agent

enforcement office in Chicago.

"Although only 7 months old, the cub is already showing signs of his potential strength. He's cut now, but definitely a tiger," Santel said.

"I can't imagine what he'll be like when he's an adult and weighs 300 pounds," he said.

Because most zoos have the quota of Bengal tigers, Tigger was sent to a wildlife sanctuary in the West as soon as travel arrangements are scheduled, Santel said.

"Bengal tigers, like other species of tigers, are considered endangered, and federal

laws, including the Endangered Species Act and the Lacey Act, restrict trade, possession and interstate commerce of the animals," Santel said.

"It is not unusual that a tiger is part of a narcotics deal. Unlawful trade in wildlife often is related to the illegal rug trade in the United States. It is unfortunate that wildlife becomes part of the fall-out, along with human victims of these activities."

The Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that illegal wildlife trade in the United States totals up to \$5 billion yearly, he said.

"Dealers have been known to use venomous snakes to guard caches of narcotics, and drugs are sometimes smuggled inside snakes and other animals," Santel said.

"Animals like Tigger, while appealing as cubs, are extremely difficult to keep. While there are instances where people, such as captive breeders, keep them as pets, it is illegal to do so. In general, it is not a good idea," he said.

"They are incredibly powerful and have specialized care and attention that only places like zoos and wildlife sanctuaries provide."

BRIEFS

Granite City

ROAD WORK: Maryville Road, from Pontoon Road to Highway 203 will be restricted to one lane each way starting Aug. 1.

Illinois Department of Transportation crews will be patching pavement. The lanes will be closed through Aug. 29.

Madison County

REAL ESTATE TAXES: Bill Avery, Madison County treasurer, announced that he will again offer the monthly payment plan for property owners who want to budget their real estate taxes over a 12-month period.

This year, the fourth year of the program, in excess of \$900,000 in taxes was paid by the 800 property owners who participated. New sign-

ups are being accepted for the 1997 taxes payable in 1998.

Participants can have their monthly payments automatically deducted from their checking or savings account.

The program does not reduce the amount of taxes owed, nor does it extend property taxes.

As customers participate, their payments, they will automatically be sent a new schedule of payments for the following year's taxes and a sign-up form.

Those interested in the monthly payment plan should call the Treasurer's office at 692-6200.

Metro East

FOREIGN EXCHANGE: The American Intercultural Student Exchange (AISE), a nonprofit educational foundation, is seeking local host families

for high school foreign exchange students for the 1997-1998 year.

AISE's students come from more than 30 countries, including Thailand, Croatia, South Africa. Each year, AISE places thousands of exchange students with host families throughout the United States.

AISE exchange students live with American families and attend local high schools during their 10-month cultural exchange experiences.

American host families provide these students with a safe, comfortable home, meals and a loving, family atmosphere in which to live.

The students are eager to learn about American government, history, customs and language, while at the same time leaving a lasting impression on their host families in the minds and hearts of their host families and peers.

Call 1-800-SIBLING or visit the AISE website at www.sibling.org for more information.



New law regulates hearing interpreters

Special to the Journal

A new law requires the regulation and registration of interpreters for the hearing-impaired.

"This is a very important bill for those who are hearing impaired in our community," said state Rep. Tom Ryder said. "It will allow for an interpreter, like the students who attend the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville, can be assured that the person has made the proper kinds and qualifications to properly relay information and communicate with the deaf."

To invoke standards and qualifications for educational interpreters, the Deaf and

Hearing Commission was established in 1996. Before the law was passed, interpreters were not regulated or registered.

"In the past, the General Assembly has attempted to regulate interpretations for interpreters for the deaf," said Ryder, R-Jerseyville.

The law was enacted to prevent people from working as professional interpreters unless certified by the Illinois Society of Interpreters for the Deaf. A satisfactory evaluation by the National Association of the

Deaf, as well as successful completion of the Interpreter Skills Assessment Screening and registration, the interpreter is required to show proof of licensure or certification.

— From the Telegraph

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(Continued from page 1)

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VOICE BOX

If you had the chance to meet and spend the entire day with your favorite star, who would that be and why?



"I would spend the entire day with Chris O'Donnell, because he's cute and a good actor."

Jamie Yarbrough, 13
Granite City
Student



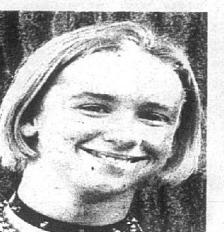
"I would like to spend the whole day with the lead singer, Phil Anselmo, of Pantera!!!!!!!"

Jamie Denson, 14
Granite City
Student



"I'd like to spend the whole day with Val Kilmer. He's a good actor and he's really cute."

Camille Sedlacek, 13
Granite City
Student



"I would like to spend the day with Marilyn Manson to see what he does on his own time."

Josh Sikes, 13
Granite City
Student



"I would really love to spend the entire day with the actor Andrew Keegan. He looks good in everything he is in!"

Rachel Cate, 13
Granite City
Student

Photos and interviews by Shirley Valencia
Interviewed at Wilson Park, Granite City

Sample trash bill shows weights, costs

A sample trash disposal bill sent to Pagedale residents by E&H Hauling Co. shows the person whose throwaway habits the bill is based on would have paid \$36.31 to have the trash removed for the April-through-June period.

Pagedale residents don't pay a separate trash-collection fee because their taxes cover E&H. The company, however, started a program to encourage recycling by showing residents how much they would have paid. City and company officials hope it encourages recycling.

The sample bill sent to 1,200 households in Pagedale last week shows the weight of the trash disposed of at home during the three-month period. The resident disposed of 1,276 pounds of trash. At 12-cents-

per-pound landfill fees, the resident would have been charged \$15.31 plus \$7 a month basic service fee for the three-month period.

Weekly trash weights on this representative bill ranged from 43 pounds collected on June 20 to 688 pounds thrown away on May 12.

The bill details such things as the date and time of the pickup as well as the weight of the trash that day and the fee the resident will have charged to the resident had a separate landfill fee been assessed.

The flyer accompanying the bill encourages residents to "reduce, reuse, recycle" such things as aluminum, steel and tin cans; glass (brown, green and clear); plastics; and newsprint.

•Leak

(Continued from Page 1A)

repairs out here, and drive-ways crack," he said.

The repairman shifted gas lines to put them in less of a bind from the packed and shifting dirt, Giese said.

"It's real dry out here," he said. "Not enough rain."

DeVer confirmed the ground "had settled at our gas meter. That's where the leak was coming from."

"If the service portion had pulled loose (from the gas meter) there probably was pressure there," he said. "Leaks like this are uncommon, though."

To keep everyone safe, however, the repairman also changes a regulator next to Giese's gas meter, and some pipes, to prevent the meter from surging, Giese said.

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•Fire

(Continued from Page 1A)

education, said normally when a worker is using a welder, a spotter is on the floor below to make sure no fires start.

"There was no spotter in the basement," he said.

The fire "did quite a bit of damage," Holloway said. Many of the graduation photos and picture frames sustained fire damage and water damage.

The high school will have four companies give estimates this week on reconstructing the graduation photos from old

yearbooks.

They will basically take photos of the yearbook pictures to reconstruct the graduation ones, he said.

No one was injured in the fire.

Holloway said the photos are popular with alumni and with all over the state. Alumni are surprised to find the high school keeps and displays them.

"We want people to know that we will do everything we can to (restore) those pictures," he said.

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NEWS

Eagles install officers at event

Joint installation of officers for Eagles Aerie and Auxiliary was held May 31 at the Eagle Home. Chairman for the event was Randy Odum for the Aerie and Amelia Weatherford for the Auxiliary.

The Aerie officers were installed first: Junior past president Tim Henne, Vice President Len Stark, Vice President Bob Gregonis, Chaplain Randy Odum, Conductor John Paschedag, Secretary Kenneth Speller, Treasurer Robert Sanders, Immediate Past Conductor Shipley, pro tem Richard Ederle, Trustees three year Charles Stokes, two year Craig

Nyers pro tem David Weatherford, one year Gene Reinhardt, pro tem David Cooper, Worthy President James Boyd.

The Auxiliary officers were then installed: Jr. Past President Susan Allen, Vice President Nina Jackson, Chaplain Helen Mihu, Secretary Vincine Zerlach, Treasurer Catherine Coff, Chaplain Helen Mihu, Conductor Sue Rogers, Inside Guard LaVerne Malzynski, Outside Guard Mary Church, three year trustee Florence Stokes pro tem, Mrs. Miller, two year trustee Martha Stinson, one year trustee Florence Hagnauer pro tem Ann Pates,

and worthy president Mildred Boyd.

President Mildred Boyd had junior past president Susan Allen escorted to the altar and gifts were exchanged. Susan Allen was presented with a past presidents certificate and her gold card. President Mildred Boyd then announced the Auxiliary mother—Hilda Melvin.

President James Boyd has past president pro tem Leroy Starz escorted to the altar and presented with a gift. He then announced the Eagle of the Year Bob Greg onis and he was presented with a gift.

Vargo and Shore: A hot item?

By Michelle Duell
Staff writer

Meeting comedian Pauly Shore was Vanessa Vargo's dream, but she never thought she'd be part of an interview with him on a radio program. "It happened to me!" she said with excitement in her voice.

Vargo, of Granite City, was interviewed with Shore at 5:50 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 9, on 104.1 FM at West Port in St. Louis.

"They taped us, and I was answering questions," Vargo said.

Now she and Shore became part of a radio show and how she met him was Shore's idea,

she said. "Vargo said she had gone to the West Port Funny Bone Comedy Club to watch and photograph him.

"I sat in the third row, and I didn't laugh at any of his jokes," she said. "I don't get jokes."

"He started talking to me, so I stood up. He asked me why my voice was so high, and my answer made him laugh."

"He said, 'I've never laughed at a girl like this,'" she said.

Vargo said the manager of the Funny Bone had promised her she could photograph Shore, so after his performance concluded, she followed him and a crowd of other women to his tour bus.

"There were so many people there," she said. "Pauly saw me taking his picture, and told everyone on the bus that I had to go. He kept me with him. He called me 'Squeaky,'" she said.

Vargo and Shore talked, she said, and he asked her to



Pauly Shore and Vanessa Vargo

accompany him to the radio station, where he planned to be interviewed.

When Shore left, she said, "They taped us, and I was just answering his questions. The D.J. tried to interview Pauly, but he said, 'No, he had to talk to me.'"

After the interview, Vargo was given a tape of the radio show, which was a recording of her conversation with Shore.

"Then I walked around with him for a while, and he said he had to go. I talked to him about four hours. He's just like he is in that movie he was in 'Son-in-Law.' He said he was born in 1968."

"He's really nice," she said. "He doesn't cuss in person or smoke. He said he's going to go to a movie this weekend. But you know how that goes. He wears these really funny clothes."

Dry weather beginning to take its toll

Special to the Journal

Area farmers may lose big when on thousands of acres of corn wilting in the hot, dry soil.

"A severe shortage of rain across the county will cut corn yields in the fall harvest," said

Ray Givillo of the Madison County Farm Service Agency in Edwardsville.

Lush, green corn leaves are turning brown and withering from Madison to Macoupin counties.

A lack of rain during a critical time when corn was pollin-

ating may decrease average yields as much as 25 to 30 bushels an acre in some sections of Madison County, Givillo said.

The Fosterville area, only 0.9 of an inch of rain has fallen on the farm fields since June 14, Givillo said.

"The fields need rain now to fill out the ears on the corn ears," he said.

The dryness may cut a swath in the \$100 million corn market in Madison, Macoupin, Jersey, Greene and Calhoun counties.

"The corn stalks are firing (turning yellow) from the ground up," Givillo said.

A lack of soil moisture has been recorded so far this year, compared with a normal 23 inches, said Bill Glass, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service.

"We're experiencing a mild drought," he said.

The corn crop this summer will fall hundreds of thousands of bushels short of the near bumper crop of 1988 when corn yields were 150 to 180 bushels an acre on some farms.

"It's terribly dry in the corn and soybean fields," said Godfrey Mayor Michael Campion, a farmer. "Corn and soybeans look bad."

"It's probably the driest summer since 1988," said John McNamee, a reporter for the Macoupin County Farm Service Agency. "I expect below-average yields in the county."

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Clinical Research Associates of Edwardsville urgently needs volunteers age 18 and over with depression to participate in research studies comparing investigational drugs with available antidepressant medication and placebo. If you or someone you know has depression please give us a call. Symptoms include:

- SADNESS, CRYING SPELLS
- LOSS OF INTEREST, IRRITABILITY
- HOPELESS AND HELPLESSNESS
- APPETITE OR WEIGHT CHANGE
- FATIGUE, SLEEP DISTURBANCE
- GUILT, WORRY, DEATH WISHES

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Lynn A. Cunningham, M.D.
Director of Clinical Research

OBITUARIES

Kevin Crown

KEN STOTT CROWN, 39, of Hamel, formerly of Granite City, died at 7:25 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7, 1997, at his residence, Bonn Jan., 15, 1958, in Fayette, Mo., and was buried in Granite City most of his life, prior to moving to Hamel months ago.

Mr. Crown was a milkman at Schmitz's Market in Granite City for 23 years as a dairy department manager. He was a member of Second Baptist Church in Granite City, Elks Lodge, American Legion, United and United Food and Commercial Workers Union 655.

Survivors include one son, Adam Scott Crown of Granite City, his parents, John and Beverly (Bingaman) Crown of Granite City; one brother, David Scott Crown of Granite City; two sisters, Cathy Crown of Lake Forest and Sherri Nichola Stauffer of Lees Summit, Mo.; and his maternal grandparents, Jim and Lucille Bingaman of Brownstown.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Brad Crown, who died in 1981.

Visitation will be from 3 - 9 p.m. today, Sunday, at Davis Funeral Home, 1000 Marion St., Granite City. Services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 11, at Davis Funeral Home, with Rev. C.R. Watkins officiating. Burial will be in West Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

Memorials are suggested to Adam Crown Educational Fund c/o John Crown.

Joseph A. Dobrowski

JOSEPH A. DOBROWSKI, 48, of Arlington Heights, formerly of Granite

City, died at 1:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7, 1997, at his residence following a one-year illness. He was born July 12, 1949, in Granite City.

Mr. Dobrowski was employed by Aramark Uniform Services as an operations engineer. He was a U.S. Army veteran, a member of St. John's Parish of Arlington Heights and Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity; and a graduate of the University of Missouri at Rolla.

Survivors include his wife, Joann Dobrowski of Arlington Heights; one daughter, Joanna Dobrowski of Arlington Heights; three sisters, Karen Dobrowski of Marion, Ill., and of Granite City and Janet Rains of Witten, Kan.; and two nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph L. and Betty R. (Price) Dobrowski.

Visitation will be from 4 - 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marion, Ill., with Rev. Fr. Jim Keefer officiating. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery, Glen Carbon.

Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society or the Dobrowski Trust Fund.

Donald J. Carlisle

DONALD J. "DUCK" CARLISLE, 60, of Murphysboro died at 1:07 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 7, 1997, at St. Joseph Hospital in Murphysboro.

Memorials are suggested to Adam Crown Educational Fund c/o John Crown.

Survivors include one son, Zane Vanaver Jr. of Spring, Texas; two nieces and 11 grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Donald Carlisle, her second husband, William Price; one son, Henry Vandaveer; and her parents, Henry and Hattie (Varham) Vandaveer.

Visitation will be from 7 - 8 p.m. Monday at Thomas Mortuary, 2205 Pontoon Road, Granite City, with the Rev. Maynard officiating. Burial was in St. John Cemetery.

Judy Means

JUDY A. (THOMPSON) MEANS, 49, of Granite City died Sunday, July 27, 1997, in O'Fallon. She was born April 18, 1948, in East St. Louis.

She was a member of Calvary Pentecostal Church of O'Fallon and served as the Sunday School Superintendent.

Survivors include three children, Terry Jr. and Jeffrey, both of Granite City, and Michaela Peppovich, her father, Roy Shemonaik of Granite City, two sisters, Joyce Munoz of O'Fallon and Leasa Shemonaik of Granite City; and one brother, Roy Shemonaik of

Survivors include his parents, Claude "Bud" Sr. and Gertrude (Carrie) Daniels; four daughters, Donna Jean Carlisle and Theresa Mae Marling of Carterville and Katherine Sue Ray of Lee Summit, Mo.; one brother, Claude "Bud" Daniels Jr. of Marion, Ill., and two grandchildren.

Services were Saturday, Aug. 9, at Pettiet Funeral Home, 1419 South Marion Street, Marion, Ill., with Rev. Joe Daniels officiating. Burial was in DeSoto Cemetery, DeSoto.

Alice (Vandaveer) Price

ALICE (VANDAVEER) PRICE, 89, of Granite City, died at 12:15 a.m. Thursday, July 31, 1997, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center following a brief illness. Born Nov. 9, 1908, in Towner, Colo., he was a resident of Granite City most of his life.

Mr. Sherlock worked for Illinois City Steel as a heater helper in the company mill in January 1932 after 45 years of service. He was a member of Calvary Pentecostal Church.

Survivors include his wife, Esther (Wise) Sherlock, whom he married May 18, 1957, in Granite City; one son, Tim Sherlock of Granite City; one brother, Ernest Sherlock of Baldwin, Kan.; and one grandson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Gladys Sherlock; one brother, Roy Sherlock; and one sister, Mary Davis.

Visitation will be from 1 - 4 p.m. at Thomas Mortuary, 2205 Pontoon Road, Granite City, with the Rev. Maynard officiating. Burial was in St. John Cemetery.

Delmar Shirley

DELMAR R. SHIRLEY, 80, of Granite City died at 12:15 a.m. Thursday, July 31, 1997, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center following a brief illness. Born Nov. 9, 1918, in Towner, Colo., he was a resident of Granite City most of his life.

Mr. Shirley worked for Illinois City Steel as a heater helper in the company mill in January 1932 after 45 years of service. He was a member of Calvary Pentecostal Church.

Survivors include his wife, Esther (Wise) Sherlock, whom he married May 18, 1957, in Granite City; one son, Tim Sherlock of Granite City; one brother, Ernest Sherlock of Baldwin, Kan.; and one grandson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Gladys Sherlock; one brother, Roy Sherlock; and one sister, Mary Davis.

Visitation will be from 1 - 4 p.m. at Thomas Mortuary, 2205 Pontoon Road, Granite City, with the Rev. Maynard officiating. Burial was in St. John Cemetery.

Memorials

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She was a member of Calvary Pentecostal Church of O'Fallon and served as the Sunday School Superintendent.

Survivors include three children, Terry Jr. and Jeffrey, both of Granite City, and Michaela Peppovich, her father, Roy Shemonaik of Granite City, two sisters, Joyce Munoz of O'Fallon and Leasa Shemonaik of Granite City; and one brother, Roy Shemonaik of

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He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Gladys Sherlock; one brother, Roy Sherlock; and one sister, Mary Davis.

Visitation will be from 1 - 4 p.m. at Thomas Mortuary, 2205 Pontoon Road, Granite City, with the Rev. Maynard officiating. Burial was in St. John Cemetery.

Memorials

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She was a member of Calvary Pentecostal Church of O'Fallon and served as the Sunday School Superintendent.

Survivors include three children, Terry Jr. and Jeffrey, both of Granite City, and Michaela Peppovich, her father, Roy Shemonaik of Granite City, two sisters, Joyce Munoz of O'Fallon and Leasa Shemonaik of Granite City; and one brother, Roy Shemonaik of

Granite City

Visitation was Tuesday from 5-9 p.m. at the Rev. Jerry Cobbs officiating. Services are today, Wednesday, Aug. 1, 1997, at 1 p.m. at Kassly with Rev. Jerry Cobbs officiating. Burial will be in Valley View Cemetery, Granite City.

Memorials may be made to Calvary Pentecostal Church in O'Fallon.

Helen Kelly-Rozkiewicz

HELEN M. BURNING KELLY-ROZKIEWICZ, 88, of Granite City, formerly of Madison, died at 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 6, 1997, at the Community Nursing Center in Granite City, where she had been a resident for the past eight years. She was born Aug. 19, 1908, in Venice.

Mrs. Rozkiewicz was a homemaker and a Catholic faith.

Survivors include her son, Joseph

Rozkiewicz; one son, Patrick Kelly of Mt. Vernon; one daughter, Mary Davis of Granite City; and one grandson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer Kelly, two sons, John and Robert Burns, and three daughters, Robert and Amelia (LaBulie) Burns, and three brothers, Tim, Bud and Roy Burns.

Services are scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11, at Thomas Memorial Mortuary, 2205 Pontoon Road, Granite City. Visitation will begin at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 10, at Sunnyside Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association.

Geneva Z. Haney

GENEVA Z. (THOMPSON) HANEY, 86, of Columbia died Wednesday, Aug. 6, 1997, at 840 N. Main, Marion, Ill.

Services will be at Sunnyside Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association.

Hedwig Hornerberger

HEDWIG HORNERBERGER, 76, of Marion, Mo., formerly of St. Louis, died at 8:40 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 9, 1997, at Cox Medical Center South in Springfield.

Mrs. Hornerberger was a homemaker and a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Marshfield.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Terry Hornerberger, who died in 1982.

Survivors include four sons, Adam, Hornerberger, of Columbia, Mo.; Robert, of Edenville, and David and William Hornerberger, both of Marshfield, Mo.; two daughters, Gloria Wolf of Marion, and Deborah Cox of Marion, Mo.; 10 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

A funeral mass is scheduled for 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 11, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Edenville, Aug. 12, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 13, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 14, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 15, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 16, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 17, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 18, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 19, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 20, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 21, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 22, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 23, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 24, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 25, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 26, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 27, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 28, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 29, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 30, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 31, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 32, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 33, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 34, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 35, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 36, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 37, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 38, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Marion, Aug. 39, at 10:30 a.m. at First 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ORGANIZATIONS

Eagles Auxiliary

The second July meeting of the Eagles Auxiliary was opened by President Mildred Boyd.

A roll call was taken with all officer present.

One new applicant was read on the floor and balloted favorably on.

She will be initiated at the first August meeting.

A thank-you letter from past president Ruth Johnson was read.

Invitations were given for their friendship at the state convention.

An invitation was read from Aurora, 1906 inviting all members to the state conference in Aurora on Sept. 12.

Visiting chairman Helen Mihut sent a sympathy card to Vickie Walker and a get-well card to Tina Cutright.

Susan Allen will be the hostess for the month of August.

The bylaws committee will be meeting soon. The new bylaws and by-laws to be included should send them to the committee.

Susan Allen and Barbara Ramsey were present to speak for the charities, Susan for Cancer and Barbara for Heart. They will be having a rummage sale at the Eagle Aug. 16.

The new officers will be Sandy Hunter who was not present. Good of the auxiliary was won by Cassie Hines and Susan Allen. The meeting was adjourned and Barbara Ramsey served refreshments.

Butterfly Card Club

The Butterfly Card Club recently held its monthly meeting. There was members meeting for lunch at Glenwood Manor in Glen Carbon and then gathering at the home of Hazel Rehm.

The birthday of Harriet Hoff was celebrated and the honoree was presented a monetary gift.

The group gathered at the home of Catherine Hommet after having lunch at the Fox Creek Golf Club in Edwardsville.

After dessert was served, the afternoon was spent playing pinochle. Each player was awarded a prize. Outstanding members of the group mentioned were Irene Miller, Nell Tally, Edith Ray, Juanita Rosenburg and Lorraine McIlroy. Guests attending were Ruthie Wether and Virginia Hoff of California. Tally will host the August meeting.

TRIO Home Extension Club

Five members of TRIO Home Extension Club went on the Aug. 2 tour to Fulton and Herman, Mo.

The first stop was in Fulton. They saw the Winston Churchill Memorial, which honors Churchill's historic speech, delivered in Fulton in 1946.

They had a guided tour of Fulton's highly restored buildings and buildings, Western Illinois College, Illinois Wood University, and viewed a short movie of the Memorial and library.

Then they visited a portion of original Berlin Wall outside the Memorial.

The church of St. Mary the Virgin, Herman, is part of the Winston Churchill Memorial. The church dates from 1877 after the Great Fire of London. The structure was rebuilt on камни, the original stones of Winston Churchill's visit to the college and his prophetic speech.

Herman was the last stop. Members visited the area of the newly restored buildings of Herman and a tour of Stonehill Winery.

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Young at Heart

Young at Heart senior citizens of Holy Family Catholic church held a monthly meeting on July 21 in the church community center.

The meeting opened with a short program by the church office for 1997-98. The new officers are: Irma Manning, president; Lucille Ceban, vice president; Cecilia Mance, recording secretary; Anna Kovach, corresponding secretary.

After the program, Manning was then called to order by Manning, who led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the June meeting were read and approved, followed by the treasurer's report given by Anna Kovach.

After the report, a thank-you card for the donation, flowers and all the love and prayers. A thank-you card was also received from Catholic Charities for the monetary donations and clothing.

Connie McGee, membership chairman, reported 68 members in attendance, with one guest, Pat Kovach.

Birthday celebration in July were: Pauline Hansen, Rosemary Meyer, Marie Stanek and Ruth Bridges.

Manning reported a trip is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 20, on the bus. Bus price \$10.00. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 7:45 a.m.; the meal is at 8 a.m., boarding at 9 a.m., and the bus will leave at 10 a.m.

Another trip is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 22, to the President's Casino. The bus price \$3.00. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 9 a.m., board at 10 a.m., lunch at 10:30 a.m.

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- ♦ Group meets one night a week for 17 months.
- ♦ Courses taught at LINC, Inc., 120 East "A" Street, Belleville
- ♦ Must have completed minimum 60 transferable semester credits
- ♦ Additional credit attainable through prior learning assessment
- ♦ Financial aid accessible

A new group is starting this October. Call today to register for an information meeting or to schedule a personal appointment with a GOAL representative. 1-800-345-4440
The 60-minute information meetings will be held at LINC, Inc., 120 East "A" Street, at 7:00 p.m. Monday, August 11 & Monday, August 18

Greenville College GOAL Program, PO Box 159, Greenville, IL 62246
Greenville College is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

a.m., leave the bus at 2 p.m.

Attendance prizes were won by Cleola Siebert, Irene Hauptman, Helen Bartach, Butch Bryer, John Huhn, Connie McGehee, Anna Kovach and Pat Kovach.

St. Mary's Picnic will be held on Saturday, Aug. 23, at the Cabin Hill Inn, Young at Heart members, the craft booth along with Manning and Silver Opich.

After refreshments of cake, coffee and tea were enjoyed, the rest of the meeting was spent playing bingo.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, Aug. 23, at 6 p.m., with the meeting at 7 p.m., Aug. 18, in the church community center.

Seniors Unlimited

Seniors Unlimited of Niedringhaus United Methodist Church held their July meeting on July 18, 1997. Diane Koenig gave a talk entitled "Holy Humor." She also led the group in praying the Lord's Prayer before a dinner of chicken sandwiches.

The Rev. Dennis Price of Troy United Methodist Church entertained the group by playing the guitar and singing several songs.

George McMillan spoke about the trip to the Wisconsin Dells in August. There were 77 in attendance.

AMVETS Auxiliary

A regular meeting of AMVETS Auxiliary 50 was recently held at the Post Home.

President Mary Miller presided.

The program was given by Chairman Lynn Doolittle and the Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Sergeant-at-Arms.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary Shirley Schleschancz.

Reports were given by the following: Post Home, Post Home, Post Home, Wilkins on membership, 2nd Vice President Jackie Rainwater on child welfare, 3rd Vice President Sherman Kunkel on community service, Alberta Manniger on Americanism/SOS; and Hospital Chairman Mary Miller.

President Mary Miller presented a check to the following charities: \$265 to John Tracy Clinic, \$200 to PALS with a Cause, \$100 to Warchild, \$100 to the American Legion, \$100 to Dunes Unlimited. In other new business it was voted to join the AMVETS and purchase a much-needed wheelchair for a senior citizen.

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welfare, 3rd Vice President Sherman

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check to the following

Park district offers Midwest tour

TOURS

The Granite City Park District will sponsor a trip to the Mall of America and other attractions in Bloomington, Minn., on Sept. 23-26.

The mega-mall, containing 4.6 million square feet and covering 78 acres, is the largest fully enclosed retail/entertainment complex in the United States. It is joined by anchor stores with over 400 specialty stores surrounding Knott's Camp Snoopy, a 7-acre indoor theme park with rides and attractions.

There are over 50 eating establishments, including the famous St. Paul Cathedral, Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, the State Capitol and Minnehaha Falls.

During the two evenings in the area, attendees will be available to the Mystic Lake Casino for those interested. Many stops will be made on the way to and from Minnesota. The dinner stop on the first day will be at the Ironhead Lodge Restaurant in Black River Falls, Wis.

On the return trip home lunch will be in Oconomowoc, Wis., at the Ironhead Lodge, the No. 1 cafe in the Midwest and the best dessert restaurant in Wisconsin. The Scandinavian restaurant will be the first of two other eating establishments that day.

Dinner will be at Bernstad's European Village, an elegant but relaxed cafe located

among a quaint collection of shops with cobblestone walkways and European architecture.

Other interesting stops to be made in Wisconsin will be at a cranberry farm where freshly harvested cranberries may be purchased right from the barn, and at the Swiss Colony Cheese Outlet Store in Monroe, a favorite stop for park district travelers.

The tickets for the trip will go on sale at 8 a.m. at the Wilson Park Ice Rink on Thursday. The cost of the trip is \$37 for a single room, \$205 per person for a double, \$224 each for three to a room and \$212 each for four in a room. Transportation includes motorcoach, three night lodgings, Firefield and Country Inns, six meals and all tours and attractions. The trip cost has increased by \$4 from the original announcement.

The entire amount must be paid at the time of registration. One person can sign up for one room from one to four people. Persons from the park district will have priority and proof of residence must be presented for each person unless husband and wife. Nonresidents in line will be accepted on the waiting list immediately while those wishing to register by phone may do so after 12 noon on that day.

For more information is needed, call Sue Champion at her residence or the Wilson Park office.



BAC photo

Helpful headgear

Belleville Area College's Granite City Campus Provost Harold Johnson, right, tries on a thermal imaging helmet at the Granite City Fire Department as firefighter Mike Richardson, left, explains how the helmet is used. The special helmet enables firefighters to see clearly through thick smoke. Looking on is GCC activities coordinator Diane Schwartz. Proceeds from a recent GCC event were donated to the GCFD to help purchase the helmet.

Landmark restaurants up for grabs

Block's Ice Cream and Sandwich Drive-In, 3200 Godfrey toad, Godfrey, and the Village Inn, 2611 College Ave., Alton, are for sale.

Both restaurants, as well as another Block's drive-in at 1020 Milton Road in Alton, are owned by Marthadell Block, whose father-in-law, Raymond

F. Block Sr., started the food chain in the early 1930s.

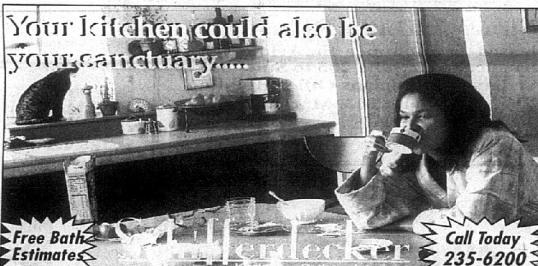
The first Block's restaurant opened on Third Street and later moved to the 600 block of East Broadway. Another was opened on Central Avenue in the late 1950s, but Block said it has been gone "for a long time."

The Milton Road drive-in began serving cold sundaes and hot food around 1950, followed by the Godfrey facility in 1955. Most of the early Block's enterprises at first served only sandwiches, some of which was handmade on the premises. Sandwiches and side dishes were added later.

Marthadell Block said, "In the '50s we'd have traffic jams all the way down to Brown Street with people looking to see who was there, but that died out in the '60s."

The Milton restaurant is not for sale.

"I'm hanging on to it in case some day my grandchildren want to stay in the family business," said Block, who lives part of each year at the Naples, Fla., home that she and Ray purchased just months ago. "It's a much easier restaurant to manage because the menu is so small."



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Tigers
tribut
Les M

Fittingly, retired, Jersey in the major leagues. He Newhouse became the major leagues to win back-to-back Player of the Week, recognizing the name of Les M. additional major seasons when the World Series

You see, Mueller entered baseball when the 16-inning game against Philadelphia, that ended in the 17th inning. It remained tied game of the day.

Prior to at recognizing Mueller was the star feature in the Sports Column, then, Mueller by autographing out the United

"We never carried when we had a photo signed often, er day from

guest of his son, Roger, baseball, coming West High School, he was asked Detroit about

When he last known is that he stopped because rule prohibits lights at a distance. He was what we made with Philadelphia's 16-inning game played 40 inn

Mueller had a 3.68 earned pitched two relief in Series, but he got the reason for that shortened thander's care

"In the early 1950s, he was down by Detroit, completed game for 'Class Mueller said.

After the came up with arm, I introduced

Introduced over 20,000 fans remaining from Mueller drew only Detroit-based the Hall

"Mueller, the nicest people to meet in Newhouse, with the Bell Brandon. To after Mueller's three-year Army World War II.

"I never didn't keep him 1940s, Newhouse, as saying.

Obviously, I ed the opening season when to the minors.

In Mueller's opening day was just about hadn't played anthem yet, a

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FAIRVIEW

SPORTS

Granite City Journal

Section B

Sunday, Aug. 10, 1997

AUGUST 10, 1997—Granite City Journal—Page 1A

Steelers look to Mon-Clair playoffs Wednesday

Park District scores, standings Page 2B



Art Voellinger

Tigers pay tribute to Les Mueller

Fittingly, the Detroit Tigers retired jersey No. 16 on July 27 in tribute to lefthanded pitcher Hal Newhouser. In 1945, he became the only player in major league baseball history to win back-to-back Most Valuable Player awards.

Of no surprise though, during the weekend ceremonies recognizing Newhouser, the name of Les Mueller drew additional memories of the '45 series when the Tigers won the World Series over the Chicago Cubs.

You see, on July 21, 1945, Mueller entered the record books when he pitched 19 2/3 innings at the Tigers' start against Philadelphia in a game that ended in a 1-1 tie after 24 innings. It remains the longest-played tie game in the history of the American League.

Prior to attending the events recognizing Newhouser, Mueller was the subject of a lengthy feature in the July issue of Sports Collector's Digest. Then, Mueller has been plagued by autograph seekers throughout the United States.

We never had baseball cards when I played, but I've had a photo of myself that I've signed often," Les said the other day from his home in Millstadt.

A guest of the Tigers with his son, Roger, an assistant baseball coach at Belleville West High School, Mueller said he was asked often while in Detroit about the long game.

"What a lot of people don't know is that the game was stopped because of a league rule prohibiting using the lights at a day game in those days," Mueller said. "And when we made up that game with Philadelphia, we played a 16-inning game, meaning we played 40 innings to determine a winner."

Mueller had a 6-9 record and 3.68 earned run average and pitched two scoreless innings of relief in the '45 World Series. He does not consider the long game as the main reason for the arm problems that shortened the tall right-hander's career.

"The early part of the 1946 season, I had to have surgery down by Detroit. I pitched two complete games in four days for (Class AAA) Buffalo," Mueller said.

After the second game, I came home really sore arm. I couldn't raise my arm to comb my hair."

Introduced to a crowd of over 20,000 fans by Newhouser, Mueller drew praise from the only Detroit-born player elected to the Hall of Fame.

"Mueller is one of the nicest people I had the chance to meet in pro ball," said Newhouser, who had teamed with the Belleville native in Beaumont, Texas, before and after Mueller completed a three-year Army stint during World War II.

"I never knew why they didn't keep him on the team in 1946," Newhouser was quoted as saying.

Obviously, Newhouser recalled the opening game of the season when Mueller was sent to the minors.

Les Mueller's words: "The opening day game in Detroit was just about to start. They hadn't played the national anthem yet, and I was in the

(See ART, Page 3B)



(Staff photo by JOHN FRESE)

Pablo Ramazzini Garcia is congratulated by his teammates after a three-run homer in Thursday's game. The Guatemalan team was playing El Salvador in the Pan American

Baseball Championships at Longacre Park in Fairview Heights.

Baseball

By Patrick C. Heston

Staff writer

Chuck and Joyce Alexander of Granite City have been living in two worlds during the month of August. As Americans, they have been cheering for Guatemala in the 1997 Pan American Baseball Championships at Longacre Park in Fairview Heights.

BASEBALL

The reason is a simple one. The Alexanders, along with Chuck's mother, Betty, are hosting four Guatemalan players.

"We came here last year to watch the Pan American games and people were putting out surveys which asked, among other things, if anyone would be interested in home-staying, that is, housing kids from other countries," Joyce

(See GAMES, Page 3B)



Guatemala pitcher Sergio Ortiz Moguel fires to the plate against El Salvador.

Geography program rings familiar with new coach

By Shawn Fusco

Staff writer

St. Louis University men's soccer coach Bob Warming is quite familiar with Sporting Geography.

As the former head coach at Creighton University, Warming and his team visited St. Louis for a game against the Billikens last season and the crowd was packed full of children.

After the game, Warming approached then-SLU coach

Joe Clarke and asked what the promotion was that put so many youngsters in the seats.

Clarke promptly replied that it was Sporting Geography night.

"There were a gazillion kids

in the stands up there, and the kids were having a blast."

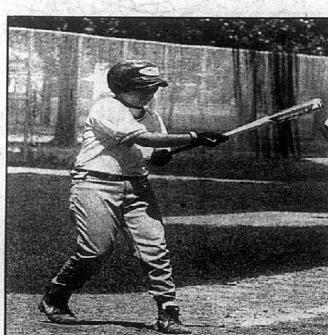
The Creighton soccer team was involved in the Omaha, Neb., community trying to stir children's interest in soccer

and in the Creighton team. So before leaving Creighton, Warming recommended that the team get involved in the Sporting Geography program.

The program highlights the region the Billikens are visiting or the region their opponents are from. It teaches students specific skills in geography. They learn to measure distance from St. Louis to the designated place, its longitude and latitude, its time zone, its physical qualities of the region and the history of the region.

One bonus of the program is that students receive a free ticket to a game of the four teams that they follow through Sporting Geography.

Another bonus of the program is that it is free for students. To receive the kit for use in the classroom, teachers need only to fill out the accompanying coupon and mail it in.



Guatemala's Alvaro Soles Hermes steps up to hit against El Salvador.

El Salvador spoils rally by Guatemala

By Patrick C. Heston

Staff writer

There was a Granite City connection in Thursday's Pan American Games baseball competition. Guatemala vs. El Salvador at Longacre Park in Fairview Heights.

Four Guatemalan players, ages 13 and 14, are being housed by Granite City residents.

Third baseman Gerardo Dacaret Martínez and pitcher/batter Sergio Ortiz Moguel are the sons of Chuck and Joyce Alexander.

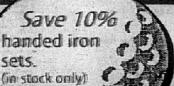
Chuck's mother, Betty Alexander, is housing second baseman Alvaro Soler Hermes and center fielder Pablo Ramazzini Garcia.

Guatemala, which came into the tournament with a record of 0-4, El Salvador stood at 0-5. The loser stood a good chance of meeting Team USA in the playoff round on Saturday. The tournament continues through today.

(See GUATEMALA, Page 3B)

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STATS 'N STUFF

SOFTBALL

Granite City Park District

Aug. 4	Men's 1A
Lenny's Tavern	10-1
Shiley Chiropractic	8-4
American Colloid	6-5
Y.T.'s	6-5
Tower Automotive	6-5
Bonneville Auto Sales	5-7
Madison Steel	3-8
Kids Lounge	1-11
Scores	
Hunico Steel 12, Madison Metal 9	
American Colloid 12, Tower Autom	
ive 6	
Shiley Chiropractic 13, Y.T.'s 10	

Men's 3A

Matt's Muffler	9-2
Suburban Baptist	7-3
Outlaws	6-5
Hooks	6-5
G.C. Sox	5-6
G.C. Production	4-7
Dilligaf's	4-7
Motil Law Office	4-7
Binday's/County Co.	3-8
Scores	
Hooks 16, Outlaws 10	
Matt's Muffler 18, Bindy's/County	
Co. 16	
Suburban Baptist 10, G.T. Product	
ions 7	

Men's 4A

K of C Lounge	8-3
Ziggy's Outback	7-4
K of C...	6-5
Jim's Pawn & Jewelry	6-5
Kramden's	6-5
Ernie & Annie's II	4-7
Ernie & Annie's	4-7
Jacobsmeyers/Bud Lite	4-7
Scores	
K of C Lounge 20, Ernie & Annie's 1	
Jacobsmeyers/Bud Light 16, Ziggy's	
Ernie & Annie's II 8, Jim's Pawn & Jewelry 5	
Kramden's 24, K of C 19	

Men's 5A

Buddy's Bud Light	10-1
Budmen	7-4
Electric Mud Puppies	6-4
Suburban Panthers	6-5
Inglestone	1-10
Scores	

Women's 1A

American Auto	10-2
Shirts-n-Stuff	9-3
Bindy's	4-6
Buzz's	1-11
Scores	

Women's 2A

Diamond Gals	8-1
Suburban Panthers	7-1
Schooley Law Office	6-3
Jacobsmeyers I	4-5
Joe's	4-5
No Clue	3-7
Sullivan's Save-a-Lot	2-7
Scores	

Women's 3A

Big Ed's Victory Tavern	11-0
Smokey Joe's	7-3
Jacobsmeyers	7-4
Dan Palovick State Farm	6-5
Scores	

Women's 4A

Women's 2A	10-2
American Auto	10-2
Shirts-n-Stuff	9-3
Bindy's	4-6
Buzz's	1-11
Scores	

Women's 5A

Women's 3A	10-1
Jacobsmeyers	8-2
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 6A

Women's 5A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 7A

Women's 6A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 8A

Women's 7A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 9A

Women's 8A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 10A

Women's 9A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 11A

Women's 10A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 12A

Women's 11A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 13A

Women's 12A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 14A

Women's 13A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 15A

Women's 14A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 16A

Women's 15A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 17A

Women's 16A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 18A

Women's 17A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 19A

Women's 18A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 20A

Women's 19A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 21A

Women's 20A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 22A

Women's 21A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 23A

Women's 22A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 24A

Women's 23A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

Women's 25A

Women's 24A	10-1
Bindy's	7-3
Electric Mud Puppies	6-5
Scores	

NEWS



(Staff photos by JOHN FRESE)

Fun at the park

At left, Cole McAmish, 3, of Granite City, takes a plunge down a slide at the Wilson Park main playground. Above, Jenae (left) and Hester Badgett, both 12, enjoy swinging at the playground. Cool August temperatures recently helped the children enjoy the outdoors.

Musicians will bring home the blues

By Mary Shapiro
Staff writer

The patriarch of blues music in St. Louis soon will be in the stage spotlight again.

Henry Townsend, 89, a long-time blues performer, will be honored at the sixth annual St. Louis Blues Homecoming, Aug. 15 through Aug. 17 at Buder Park, off Highway 141 just north of Interstate 44.

(More than 55 national and regional blues artists including Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame member Jerry Lee Lewis, former Drifter Ben E. King, swamp boogie queen Koko Webster and the Duke of Earl, Jimi Hendrix—will perform on five outdoor stages at the 78-acre park.)

The festival will run from 5 p.m. to midnight Friday, noon to midnight Saturday, and noon to 11 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17.

Lewis and Chandler will perform Aug. 17, while Webster and Townsend will take the stage Aug. 15.

The festival will also pay special tribute Aug. 16 to the "sisters of soul," some of the

greatest female vocalists, including Sugar Pie DeSanto, Bettye LaVette, Mable John and Laura Lee.

This year's festival is likely to attract the largest crowd in the festival's history, Burke said. He expects 55,000 to 60,000 people to attend over the three days.

Growth in attendance over the past few years—especially by people from other cities—created the need for true festival grounds for the event, Burke said.

"The festival was started as a nightclub event in 1991, with stages at both Kienle Plaza and multiple nightclubs," Burke said. "Then we held it on the steps of the Kiel Opera House in 1992."

"For the next four years in a row we were in Laclede's Landing, where we were small enough to be a street festival," he said. "But in 1995 and 1996 the festival really caught on and the event grew phenomenally. We went with bigger headline entertainers and need ed more room."

Buder Park offers the most room for future growth and the best accessibility for the largest number of area residents, Burke said.

The festival is the third-largest annual blues music festival in the nation.

People should bring lawn chairs and blankets for seating. No pets or coolers will be allowed on festival grounds.

Parking will be free. Riverport Casino Center will provide a free shuttle service between its Maryland Heights complex and Buder Park during the event.

About 100 volunteers are still needed to help out at the festival. Anyone interested in volunteering may call 644-1551. Burke said.

Advanced tickets cost \$12.50 per day or \$30 for a three-day pass. Tickets will cost \$15 per day during the festival. Children under 12 and younger will be admitted free.

For advance ticket purchases, call MetroTix at 1-800-293-5949.

For more information, call 644-1551.

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MARY L. PARKER celebrates her 30th birthday today, Aug. 10. ROBERT STANTON celebrates his 61st birthday today, Aug. 10. BRUCE T. PEARCE celebrates his 9th birthday today, Aug. 10. CAROL ROBERTSON celebrates her birthday today, Aug. 10. KAYLYN TOPAL will celebrate her 8th birthday Aug. 11.

NORMAN and GLORIA BENNETT will celebrate their 31st anniversary Aug. 11. LISA DAWN FRYE will celebrate her 31st birthday Aug. 12. ISSAC DUCKETT will celebrate his 22nd birthday Aug. 12. BOB and VERONICA VOEGELE will celebrate their 3rd anniversary Aug. 12. LYNN ELLEDGE will celebrate her birthday Aug. 13.

ANGELA KAMUCHIO will celebrate her 6th birthday Aug. 13.

ERIN KELLY will celebrate her 22nd birthday Aug. 13.

MICHELLE GALL will celebrate her 17th birthday Aug. 13.

BRANT McFARLAND will celebrate his 11th birthday Aug. 13.

TRAVIS SCROGGING will celebrate his 20th birthday Aug. 13.

JERRY BADGETT will celebrate his 47th birthday Aug. 13.

ROCKY LYNN HOLLENBACK will celebrate her 5th birthday Aug. 13.

RACHEL MCKEE will celebrate her 18th birthday Aug. 14.

ERIC and VALERIE SLOVER will celebrate their 10th anniversary Aug. 14.

GLADYS WOODS will celebrate her birthday Aug. 14.

SARAH WILFONG will celebrate her 9th birthday Aug. 14.

TAMMY L. MENDENHALL will celebrate her 21st birthday Aug. 14.

JOANN COOK will celebrate her 45th birthday Aug. 15.

MARGIE REDDING will celebrate her birthday Aug. 15.

ROBERT "BOB" ANDERTON will celebrate his 27th birthday Aug. 15.

JARROD DANIEL GRUENWALD will celebrate his 8th birthday Aug. 15.

DOUG MCKEE will celebrate his 17th birthday Aug. 15.

THOMAS "TOM" RAY OSTRESH will celebrate his 42nd birthday Aug. 16.

RICKY JOE COLLISON Sr. will celebrate his birthday Aug. 16.

WILLIAM WEIDNER will celebrate his 42nd birthday Aug. 16.

BRENDA J. MENDENHALL will celebrate her 53rd birthday Aug. 16.

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NEWS

Refinancing tough decision

Everyone loves the thought of lower monthly mortgage payments. But before you refinance your mortgage, the Illinois CPA Society suggests that you take a careful look at how refinancing fits into your family's overall financial picture.

What works for your neighbor might not be the best financial strategy for you.

Know Your Break-even Point

Homeowners will decide that refinancing should be aware of the costs involved. When you refinance your existing mortgage and take out a new one, since in effect you are applying for a new mortgage, you're required to pay many of the same expenses associated with a new mortgage, including fees for application processing, a credit appraisal, title search and title insurance, attorney fees and other related closing costs. In most cases, you'll also pay points.

Check With Your Current Lender

Before you start shopping around, it's a good idea to check with your current lender. Your lender might be willing to waive certain closing costs or agree to modify your current loan without a complete refinancing. But watch out for trade-offs; a mortgage with low up-front costs usually comes with a higher interest rate. The right alternative for you depends on your financial situation. If you're in it for the long term, you're probably better off going with the lower rate option.

Consider After-tax Implications

On an after-tax basis, refinancing may not be a good idea, it appears on paper. Interest on a home mortgage is one of the few significant tax deductions left. When you refinance your mortgage, the interest you pay on it goes into a smaller mortgage interest deduction. That means some of the money saved in lower monthly mortgage payments will be offset by the additional tax you may pay on income that is no longer sheltered. Generally speaking, the higher your tax bracket, the more you stand to gain from reducing those payments. In addition, if you refinance your current mortgage for more than the existing amount, the deductibility of the interest on the excess amount depends on how you use the funds and the amount of the refinancing.

Shorten Your Mortgage Term

When interest rates drop, refinancing can allow you to switch from a 30-year to a 15-year mortgage without a major increase in your monthly payment. Doing so is an excellent strategy for homeowners who want to pay off their mortgage before retirement or before the children's college tuition bills start rolling in. With a 15 year mortgage, you can save tens of thousands of dollars in interest pay off your mortgage faster. Fifteen-year mortgages are especially beneficial to individuals who have already made a big dent in paying off the balance and don't want to be saddled with a 30-year loan.

Phi Theta Kappa group makes own success

In the world of clubs and organizations, membership and success often go hand in hand. Groups depend on new members for success. Yet, people are often unwilling to join organizations perceived as unsuccessful or inactive.

In previous years, the latter had been true from Alpha Kappa Rho, Belleville Area College's Granite City Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the Two-Year College.

However, the 1996-97 academic year proved to be the chapter's most successful year ever in terms of membership participation and awards earned at the state and national level.

The chapter raised enough money through fund-raisers to send its treasurer, Jessica Hankins of Cahokia, to the Phi Theta Kappa's 1997 Honors Institute, which was held June 22-25 at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash.

Because of Alpha Kappa Rho's efforts in raising money for the Madison County AIDS Project, the chapter received a scholarship from Harold Washington College in Chicago. The gift will be used to pay for part of Hankins' trip.

"I think it will be a great experience," Hankins said.

The institute brought participants from across the United States and around the world. The 1997-98 honors study topic is, "Family: Myth, Metaphor and Reality." A different study topic is chosen each year.

"This is the first year we've sent someone to the honors institute," said GCC librarian Jan Zuke, faculty adviser. Alpha Kappa Rho, Zuke said, institute participants examine the study topic through a



Surrounded by officers of Alpha Kappa Rho, Belleville Area College's Granite City Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, faculty adviser Jan Zuke, center, holds the certificate signifying the chapter's three-star level status. Officers are, from left, corresponding secretary Wendy Shevchik of Troy; treasurer Jessica Hankins of Cahokia; president Linda Barnes of Granite City; and vice president Sissy Bush of Madison.

BAC photo

series of seminars and lectures. This year's event will feature a debate on family values between Nadine Strossen, president of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Alton native Phyllis Schlafly, founder of The Eagle Forum.

Only July 31 in Champaign, Hankins will share her experiences of the honors institute when she is a guest speaker at the Illinois Mini-Honors Institute.

Another first for the Alpha Kappa Rho chapter was attending the international PTK convention in Dallas in late April. "It was like a political con-

vention, with the balloons, the music, the big video screens," said chapter president Linda Barnes, who attended alone with Zuke, Hankins and chapter member Carrie Toth.

At the state level, Barnes was inducted into the Member's Hall of Honor and Zuke was inducted into the Advisor's Hall of Honor. Also, the entire chapter was honored for reaching the three-star level of program development.

At the three-star level, chapters "emphasize more comprehensive programs, improved communication, and greater regional involvement," according to PTK guidelines.

"It was like a political convention, with the balloons, the music, the big video screens."

Linda Barnes
PTK chapter president

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HOROSCOPE

SUNDAY, Aug. 10
Take it easy today while the sensitive moon travels through Scorpio. This moon position creates a powerful positioning with the sun in power, ruled by Leo. Mercury and Venus in reserved and thoughtful Virgo can help you hold your tongue.

Even constructive criticism will be on your mind during this time, so allow Virgo's discriminating influence to teach you about the power of silence.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 10) — business is your best friend. You've been chasing finally rings a windfall at the end of October. Follow aggressive instincts in your love life now, through September. You'll find a boy or Scorpio or Libra. Worth giving you an energy boost in November, and lots of money comes in. Fantastic months for taking financial chances are December and February. Good marriage months are January and

May.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Your conviction and sense of security are something to believe in. A scenario involving a Taurus leads to a profitable melding of ideas. Singles meet prospects at a popular dining spot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
An element of calm improves your productivity. You are faced with a love commitment that is not exactly real. Social knowledge is gained through a public article. The remedy for boredom is curiosity.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Matters of practicality will only confuse you. Inquiries of a financial institution garner you more money month-to-month. Challenge an employer or an acquaintance to a sport. A regular offer brings laughs tonight.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
You see a sweetie in a new light. Luck comes for collect-



Joyce Jillson

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tors, art dealers and bargain shoppers. Your detailed observation is key to friend's success in your program. You'll excel in different ways — not just financially.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You meet and surpass a love's or member's hopes. Current events move you to making a career plan fall into place quickly. Be daring with

a quarrelsome individual. You deserve to be heard, too!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Compliments are well deserved to date you. A uniform more fitting is the rule for your acceptance in a social circle.

SERIOUSLY consider the suggestion of an Aries. Ambiguous words are easily deciphered.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Your love's actions tell a different story than the one stated. Learn hip terminology. You are the most popular gathering, so concentrate on the positive. Stamina is gained in athletics and mental games.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Your love grows into a more stable atmosphere. Foreigners articulate your thoughts on important personal issues. Be more in tune to the needs of a friend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Listen — the universe is telling you something about

your self-worth. Hasty romantic moves are not to your advantage. Participate in games this evening — a win is certain.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
A loved one's talent is highlighted due to your persistence. Your aptitude for mechanics and art earns you the admiration of a younger sibling. Thinking makes you the leader.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Gradual progress toward a

physical goal is finally noted by people who matter to you. Kindness and excellent karma are your constant companions. Plan your entrance into a new social arena.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Your priority shifts, and major organizational attempts set you on the path to economic victory. Do not contract to get artistic community projects off the ground. Romance blossoms out of a solid friendship.

Watch it! They're out to get you

By Ronnie Roy

Staff writer

Fluoride has been put in our water supply to weaken our will and make us easier for the government to control. NASA has equipped the space shuttle with a weapon that can cause earthquakes. The Vietnam War was started over a bet.

Welcome to the world of New York City lawyer Jerry Fletcher. Fletcher sees conspiracies everywhere, and spreads the word to all his faxes, as well as the handful of subscribers to his newsletter, *Conspiracy Theory*.

Naturally, no one takes him seriously.

Unfortunately, he may be right.

"Conspiracy Theory" is an effective suspense-thriller with plenty of plot twists and turns, chases and explosions, and even a love story.

Mel Gibson plays Fletcher, a

man so paranoid he padlocks his refrigerator and the individual contents inside. His apartment is a rat's nest of files, old newspaper clippings all rigged up to be destroyed in the flame at the flip of a switch.

The only person he really trusts is his Practice Department Attorney Alice Sutton (Julia Roberts). He frequently makes unannounced visits to her office to share his latest theories and tolerates him because he once rescued her from a mugging.

Things take an unexpected turn following one meeting, when Fletcher is kidnapped and taken to a secret location where he is tortured for information by a mysterious Dr. Jonas (Patrick Stewart). It may be that one of Fletcher's theories cuts too close to the truth. Or maybe there is more to Fletcher than meets the eye. Or both.

Fletcher manages to escape and runs to Sutton, who must decide whether to take the chance that he's telling the truth. Making that chance will make them both some powerful enemies.

To say more would be to give away too much. Suffice it to say, rarely are things what they seem.

Director Richard Donner keeps everyone, on screen and in the audience, off balance.

Gibson gives a suitably edgy, paranoid performance and the rest of the cast do fine work as well.

The film is sure to hit home with some. Government paranoia is all the rage these days, from aliens in Roswell, N.M., to the troops taking over in Midway. Mel Gibson's viewers will probably nod their heads in agreement as Fletcher spouts off his theories.

MOVIE SCHEDULES

Film timetable for Sunday, Aug. 10. For times on other days or to confirm these times, check local theaters.

ALTON CINE

2840 Clair St., 462-1131
Conspiracy Theory (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15

Contact (PG-13) 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00

CARMIC PETITE

I-70 and Hwy. 157, Collinsville, 344-1708
Contact (PG-13) 9:15

George of The Jungle (PG) 1:30, 3:45, 6:45, 8:45

Conspiracy Theory (R) 1:00, 4:45, 7:00, 9:45

Al Capone (R) 1:15, 4:00, 7:15, 10:00

EASTGATE CINE

Eastgate Plaza, E. Alton, 254-5289
Name in Black (PG-13) 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

Spawn (PG-13) 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45

George of The Jungle (PG) 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 8:45

Picture Perfect (PG-13) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:00

Free Willy 3 (PG) 2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

Air Force One (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00

COTTONWOOD

EDWARDSVILLE CINEMA
Edwardsville, 656-6390

Meet the Black (PG-13) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

Spawn (PG-13) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

George of The Jungle (PG) 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 8:45

O'FALLON 15 CINE

1320 Central Park Dr., O'Fallon, Ill., 822-9899

Hercules (G) 12:00, 2:15, 4:25, 7:00, 9:15

Picture Perfect (PG-13) 12:20, 2:30, 4:45, 7:20, 9:30

George of The Jungle (PG) 1:30, 4:00, 6:45, 8:45

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GARY GAETTI

88

Gary Gaetti

Photo by Dan Donovan



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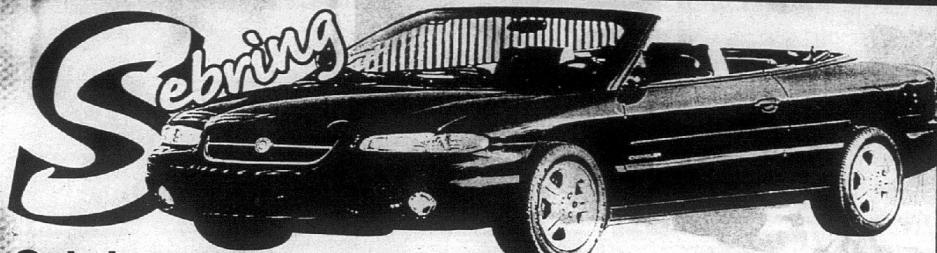
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A DI

AUTOMOTIVE



Sebring convertible stylish, fun, comfortable

By Tom Strongman

REDCREST, CALIF. — If you want to get the most out of driving down the Avenue of the Giants,租 a convertible. Staring up at these 300-foot redwoods is simply awesome when you don't have a top to obstruct your view. You feel truly insignificant, like a mouse looking at an elephant.

The Avenue of the Giants meanders through the Humboldt Redwoods State Park alongside Highway 101, north of Eureka. These centuries-old trees are so large there are three big enough to drive through.

It was into this area my wife and I drove in a Chrysler Sebring convertible a recent vacation. This stylish, four-passenger ragtop was the ideal mate for our weeklong amble through the coast-side north of San Francisco, because it has a decent luggage space, a top that drops in seconds and comfortable seats.

Besides, convertibles and California go together like bagels and mineral water. They magnify the panoramic vistas of Highway 1 like nothing else with four wheels can.

The convertible is mechanically similar to the Sebring coupe, but it has a unique body. It is built on the same front-wheel-drive, 106-inch wheelbase platform shared with the Dodge Stratus/Chrysler Cirrus.

Our test car, a two-door north of Eureka, and we spent most of our time in the Victorian village of Ferndale and quaint Mendocino. The Sebring was well suited for the winding roads in the north, because it made corners without much body roll yet has a seat that is as compliant as a family sedan. It is good balance of sportiness and comfort.

Our test car, painted Deep Amethyst Pearl, a really nice dark metallic purple, was the upscale JXi with the 2.5-liter, V-6

engine and four-speed automatic transmission. AutoStick AutoStick allows the driver to shift the transmission manually, which was perfect for the long stretch of the coast highway because it was easy to hold the car in lower gears to slow for turns.

In AutoStick mode the gear lever was a bit sloppy, and it took a hefty nudge to execute a shift. I have driven numerous AutoStick models in the past and none were like this, so our car's linkage must have been an aberration.

The Mitsubishi-built V-6 engine has 168 horsepower, enough to give snappy acceleration and relaxed cruising. Even though we were needed to keep going over the rough and tortuous Fishhook Road south of Mendocino, it still had power in reserve.

As you can imagine, we spent much of the time with the top down. Lowering it took almost no effort and very little time, which made it a joy. When it was cold, we left the side windows up and pointed the heater to keep warm. Wind blast was minimal and with the side windows down it was even better. The rear-mounted radio antenna whistled like crazy at 60 mph, but we couldn't hear it with the top up. We usually turned the radio off when the top was down so as not to be bothered by the whistling.

The top is lined to absorb sound and has a glass rear window, but when it was up there was still a fair amount of wind noise at highway speeds. That's nearly always the case for convertibles.

Despite the fact the body structure has been reinforced to compensate for the lack of a top, there was some minor shaking over bumpy roads.

The cab-forward architecture means the cockpit is big enough for four real people. Luggage space is decent, although one of our bags had to ride in the back seat because it was too tall for the space that holds the top when it is down.

The steeply sloping windshield keeps the

passengers out of the wind, but in some situations light reflects from the deep dashboard up onto the glass.

At night, the headlights were just barely adequate on low beams.

Instrumentation is simple and easy to read, and the radio and heating controls are tucked together in a center pod. Of course, cup holders are generous and within easy reach.

The front seats are wide and accommodating, yet have adequate lateral and lumbar support that makes them comfortable for long hours behind the wheel. The seat belts are built into the seats, which is excellent because they always fit right no matter how the seat is adjusted. They also free up access to the side door.

During our week in northern California, Sebring convertibles were as plentiful as sunshine, which is a testament to the car's popularity. It is sporty, stylish, reasonably priced, gets decent gas mileage and has room for four. That makes it practical as well as fun. I would not ask convertibles to do much more than that.

Our test car's base price was \$24,760. Standard equipment included air conditioning, power windows, remote keyless entry, power mirrors, power driver's seat, AM/FM stereo, 16-inch alloy wheels, rear window defroster, power steering wheel, cruise control and anti-lock brakes.

Options included the V-6 engine, AutoStick transmission and California emissions controls.

The sticker price was \$26,460.

The basic warranty is for three years or 36,000 miles.

Point: The Sebring is spacious, good looking and pleasant with the top down. The V-6 is the engine of choice, and our test car's dark purple paint was most handsome.

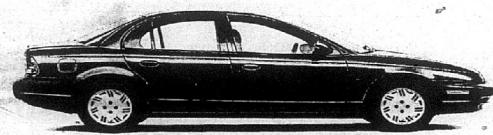
Counterpoint: The headlights need to be brighter and a revised radio antenna would reduce whistling.

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*The Complete Car Cost Guide, 1997, IntelliChoice, Inc., Campbell, CA

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August 10, 1997—Granite City Journal—Page 1C

Stay calm, be courteous when driving

By Rick Stoff

It's not just idiots and sociopaths who commit the "aggressive driving" offense that cause so much anger on our roads. The National Motorist Association says the idiots could be you—or me.

Anyone who is distracted or rushed can commit one of the rude offenses that can really hack off other drivers who don't appreciate having to take evasive action at 65 mph because someone else is too important or busy to use his turn signal, let alone look in the rear-view mirror. (Like the guy who pulled out in front of me from the Schnucks lot the other day without even THINKING about looking.)

Jim Baxter, president of the motorists' association, says you could be one of the offenders, day in and day out, without realizing it.

"We can't seem to deal with this issue until the driving public understands that anyone can drive aggressively, and that anyone may be part of the problem," he said.

He believes discourteous driving, rather than out-and-out aggression, is the leading cause of the "road rage" problem.

The leading manifestation of discourtesy is lane-hogging, Baxter believes. That's when a driver who is not keeping up with the traffic flow nonetheless insists upon clogging a passing lane of highway. When heavy traffic is encountered, Baxter suggests drivers simply go with the flow.

If a driver is traveling 60 mph and the other is traveling 70 and you try to go to some speed in between, growl and pick one or the other. Trying to hold up a fast lane or weave through slow traffic can result in an accident or create unnecessary anger.

Another tip Baxter suggests for avoiding courtesy is to pass other drivers quickly rather than let the cruise control do your work ever so slowly. Get it over with and get out of the way.

Also, it's very nice to anticipate the needs of other drivers. Open up space for people who signal the need for a lane change or who are coming off an entrance ramp and obviously need to get into the traffic flow.

Finally, stifle your own anger. Baxter says we should remember there is a place and a place for it. Our time may not be the next driver's, since even the prettiest scenic roads are used by people going to and from work and other necessary destinations. Keep an eye on the rear-view mirror if you're driving slowly. If people are lining up behind you, pull over once in a while and let them pass.

Finally, stifle your own anger. Baxter says we shouldn't let bad drivers get our goat, even if they seem to be brainless slugs intent on denting our shiny, multi-thousand-dollar babies that have years of payments left on them.

When other drivers do something bad around you, be patient, not angry. Write them off as ignorant, incompetent or inconsiderate.

And here's another driving tip from your correspondent: Enjoy pleasant thoughts about how dent up their cars eventually will if they keep driving like ignorant, inconsiderate incompetents.

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